

arisen, an Officer-in-Charge (OIC) has been installed to operate the office. The noncareer postmaster relief may be separated from the Postal Service; however, attempts will be made to reassign the employee to a nearby facility. FD, at 8. The record shows that no other employee would be adversely affected by this closing.⁵ The average number of daily retail window transactions at the Ashton Post Office is 11, accounting for 12 minutes of daily retail workload. FD, at 2. Additionally, revenue has generally been low: \$36,534.00 in FY 2008 (95 revenue units); \$31,557.00 in FY 2009 (82 revenue units); and \$31,612.00 (82 revenue units) in FY 2010.⁶ The Ashton Post Office has one permit mailer and one postage meter customer. FD, at 2; Item No. 15, Post Office Survey Sheet, at 1; Item No. 33, Proposal, at 2.

Upon implementation of the final determination, delivery and retail services will be provided by rural route delivery administered by the Sibley Post Office,⁷ an EAS-18 level office located eight miles away, which has 127 available Post Office Boxes. FD, at 2; Item No. 18, Post Office Closing or Consolidation Proposal, at 1; Item No. 33, Proposal, at 2.

The Postal Service followed the proper procedures which led to the posting of the FD. All issues raised by the customers of the Ashton Post Office were considered and properly addressed by the Postal Service.⁸ The Postal Service gave customers

⁵ FD, at 2, 11; Item No. 15, Post Office Survey Sheet, at 1; Item No. 33, Proposal to Close the Ashton, IA Post Office and Establish Service by Rural Route Service ("Proposal"), at 2, 10.

⁴ FD, at 2; Item No. 18, Post Office Closing or Consolidation Proposal, at 1; Item No. 33, Proposal, at 2.

⁵ The Sibley Post Office is not part of the candidate facilities on the RAOI. See Docket No. N2011-1, USPS LR-N2011-1/11 Rev 1, available at <http://www.prc.gov/prc-pages/library/detail.aspx?docketId=N2011-1&docketPart=Documents&docid=75971&docType=Library%20References&attrID=&attrName=>

⁸ Petitioners claim that in April 2010, Garry Mattox of the Western Area held a public meeting in which he allegedly "wanted Ashton to have a new 5 year lease so [Ashton] would not get caught up" in the "changes coming [to] the postal service." Petitioners assert that "postal officials felt the Ashton location merited continuance by their insistence on extending the lease." However, the lease for the Ashton Post Office was a year-to-year lease until it expired on October 14, 2011. The field coordinator for the Ashton